(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार द्वारा हाल ही में घोषित आयात निर्यात नीति में निर्यात की न्यूनतम सीमा 5 करोड़ रुपये निर्धारित की गई थी;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि सरकार ने बाद में इस सीमा को घटाकर 4 करोड़ रुपये कर दिया था; यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) इस प्रकार का निर्णय लिये जाने का क्या औचित्य है जबकि निर्यात को प्रोत्साहन दिये जाने का विचार है?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अरंगिल श्रीधरन): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) और (ग) निर्यातक समुदाय, खासकर छोटे-छोटे निर्यातकों से प्राप्त अभिवेदनों के आधार पर यह निश्चय किया गया है कि निर्यात सदन के रूप में मान्यता देने के लिये मूल्य सीमा को निवल विदेशी मुद्रा अर्जन आधार पर 5 करोड़ रुपये से कम करके निवल विदेशी मुद्रा अर्जन आधार पर 4 करोड़ रुपये कर दिया जाये और साथ ही इस प्रकार के उपयुक्त संक्रमणकालीन प्रावधान किये जाएं जिससे कि मौजूदा निर्यात सदन अपेक्षाकृत ऊंचे अर्हक लक्ष्य प्राप्त कर सकें।

Addition of Water and Sugar to Maaza and Frooti Drinks

1697. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Excise Department had taken into account the fact that fruit pulp drinks like Maaza/ Frooti had sugar and water added and that the fruit pulp content was 15 per cent at the time of deciding to classify these drinks in Chapter 20 in March, 1988; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for which these drinks are now being classified in Chapter 22 of the Central Excise Tariff because water is being added?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Doubts continued to persist regarding correct classification, even after deciding to classify these drinks in Chapter 20. Going by the Harmonized System of Nomenclature guidelines and the fact that the Central Excise Tariff is based on Harmonized System of Nomenclature, products like Maaza and Frooti appear to fall more appropriately under Chapter 22 of Central Excise Tariff.

Irrigation projects from Madhya Pradesh pending clearance

1698. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 18 irrigation projects submitted by the Madhya Pradesh Government are pending with the Central Government for want of environmental clearance;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and by when these are likely to be given clearance;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Central Advisory Committee had cleared Mohini, Mogha, Mogra, Swaran Rekha and Mutwa projects but even then Government orders have not been issued so far; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) and (b) On nine major projects namely, Bargi Multipurpose, Thanwar, Omkareshwar, Bansagar Unit II, Bargi Diversion, Kalo, Mongra, Mahanadi Reservoir and Sindh Phase-II and five medium projects, namely, Bah, Sutiapat, Mahuar, Gej and Barchar Projects, the State Government is to obtain environmental and/or forest clearance and in addition has to comply with the observations of other Central appraising agencies.

(c) and (d) While Ministry of Environment and Forests have rejected Moghra Project, the State Government has to comply with the observations on Mutwa Project. Mohini Pick-up Weir, Mogha and Swarn Rekha Projects recommended by the Advisory Committee are under further processing.